strategy, an integrated Technology Development Plan, a policy framework, for promotion of new technologies and programmes of action to introduce scientific and technological content relevant to the concerned departments.

Task Force on Electronics for Health Care

1304. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the task force on electronics for health care set up by Government in August has recommended the launching of a technology mission;

(b) if so, whether Government have accepted the suggestion;

(c) what will be the main functions of these missions; and

(d) what are the other suggestions made by the task force and to what extent the Department of Electronics had examined these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. Task Force on Electronics for Health Care recommended institution of a Technology Development Mission

(b) The report of the Task Force has been submitted and recommendations are under consideration.

(c) The main objective envisaged of the Technology Development Mission is to develop market and establish indigenous systems of health care programme at primary, community and district health centres, teaching and R & D institutions, and technology upgradation of specific medical electronic equipment.

(d) The other main suggestions of the Task Force include the following:—

(i) Indigenous equipment supplied to all organisations enjoying duty free import status be treated as 'DEEMED EXPORT'.

(ii) Central Agency be formed for standardisation saftey and quality certification of all medical electronic equipment.

(iii) A forum be established for a continuing dialogue between the Central Ministries like Health, Planning, Industry, Department of Electronics, the State Health Ministries, the professional bodies of Hospitals, Medical Practitioners, with the various manufacturers including Associations.

(iv) To give special emphasis on Maintenance and Manpower development in Biomedical Engineering.

The recommendations are under consideration.

Design of Third Aircraft Carrier for Navy

1365. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that navy's third aircraft carrier is to have a French design;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether a change in design is being preferred, if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) to (c) A contract has been recently signed with M/s. SOFMA of France for the Concept Design Study of a Sea Control Ship in accordance with the Staff Requirements of the Indian Navy.

Purchase of Alcoholic Drinks by Defence Canteen

1366. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what criteria has been laid down by the defence canteen store purchase department for enlistment of manufacturers/distributors' for purchase of Alcoholic drinks such as IMFL, Rum, Beer etc.;